

# CROSSVILLE CHRONICLE.

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CROSSVILLE CHRONICLE

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NO. 1

## GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER ALL RAILROADS

### DUE TO WAR EMERGENCY, BUT OWNERSHIP IS THE END

The Government Finance Plan Cannot Result In Less Than Ownership, According to Many Leading Railroad Financiers.

The most gigantic railroad manipulation that the world ever witnessed was put on foot by a recent act of congress by which the president was authorized to take over the railroads of the country during the continuance of the war.

The railroads were taken over by the government Friday at noon.

Secretary of the Treasury W. G. McAdoo, was chosen as director general of the combined railroads of the country. He immediately drafted four of the leading railroad men of the nation and directed them to formulate plans for unifying the roads into one complete system.

The railroad mileage of the country amounts to 250,000 miles and the plan now is to subvert everything to the immediate interests of the war. The board chosen by Mr. McAdoo has recommended to deny non-essential commodities the right of transportation until such time as the unification of the roads will enable them to handle it without obstructing war traffic.

It is understood that a plan of financing is to be put into use by the government that will enable the bonds of railroads to be offered to the people on much the same plan as the Liberty Bonds. It is the plan for the government to furnish necessary funds for equipment and improvements and offer the bonds to the people with the same assurance of security as an investment as the Liberty Bonds. Both the railroads and government leaders claim that such a course will of necessity complicate matters to such an extent that final ownership by the government is the only outcome.

The railroads have refused the request of the trainmen for a 40 percent increase in pay and will leave the whole matter to be handled by the government.

It has been suggested that one of the reasons for the government taking over the roads is to get rid of the threatened labor trouble. It is understood that in the event the trainmen attempt to strike they will be conscripted just as soldiers are now and thus the trains will be kept moving.

## EXPLOSIVES LICENSE.

### Every Person Using or Selling Explosives Must Have a License.

Under the law governing the sale or use of explosives every person who sells or uses explosives such as powder, dynamite or other explosives must now take out a license for that purpose.

County Clerk W. D. Hedgecoth has been designated for issuing such license in the county seat. Other persons named for that service are: H. C. Sabine, Ozone; M. L. Taylor, Clifty; J. H. Henry, Isoline; Sam Nelson, Genesis.

Should any person continue to use or sell explosives without such permit they will be liable for a heavy fine.

## DEPUTY COLLECTOR.

C. G. Black, who recently resigned as clerk of the Chancery court here, has been appointed deputy collector of internal revenue, with headquarters at Nashville. His duties will take him away from home much of the time.

## MANY AUTOS.

The state is buying 60,000 automobile plates for this year.

## YOUR INCOME TAX

### Men Will Come Around to Help You Figure Out the Amount.

In a communication received by this paper, Collector of Internal Revenue E. B. Craig announces that a Federal Income Tax Officer will be sent into this county on January 18, and will be here until January 25. He will have his office in Crossville, and will be there every day ready and willing to help persons subject to income tax make out their returns without any cost to them for his services.

How many income tax payers will there be in Cumberland county? If you can guess how many married persons living with wife or husband will have net incomes of \$2,000 or over and how many unmarried persons will have net incomes of \$1,000 or over this year, then you know. The Collector of Internal Revenue estimates that there will be 185 taxpayers in this county.

Returns of income for the year 1917 must be made on forms provided for the purpose before March 1st, 1918.

Because a good many people don't understand the law and won't know how to make out their returns, the Government is sending in this expert to do it for them. But the duty is on the taxpayer to make himself known to the Government. If he doesn't make return as required before March 1st, he may have to pay a penalty ranging from \$20, to \$1,000, pay a fine or go to jail. So if you don't want to take chances on going to jail, you better call on the Income Tax Man. If you are not sure about being subject to the tax, better ask him and make sure. Whether you see the income tax man or not, you must make a return subject to tax.

Of course, persons resident in other counties may, if they want to, come and see the Income Tax man at this point.

"It will be well for every unmarried person whose net income for 1917 is \$1,000 or over, and every married person living with wife or husband whose net income for 1917 is \$2,000 or over, to call on the income tax man and learn whether or not they have any tax to pay," Collector Craig said recently. "The person subject to tax who doesn't make return in the time prescribed, is going to regret it. The Government will get after all income tax slackers."

"There's hardly a business man, merchant or professional man who won't have to make return of income."

Farmers, as a class, will have to pay the tax. The safe thing to do is for every person who had a total income of \$1,000 or \$2,000, as the case may be, and who is not sure about what deductions the law allows him, to play it safe by calling on the income tax man. "The man in the field will have forms for everybody and persons who expect to call on him need not trouble themselves to write the Internal Revenue Office for them."

The Collector suggests that everybody start figuring up now his income and expenses so as to be ready with the figures when the expert arrives. Expenses, however, don't mean family expenses, money used to pay off the principal of a debt, new machinery, buildings, or anything like that. They mean what you spend in making your money—interests, taxes paid, hired help, amount aid for goods sold, seed, stock bought for feeding, rent, (except for your dwelling), etc. Income includes about every dollar you get.

## HALIFAX DISASTER.

In the Halifax disaster of a few weeks ago, there were 1,500 killed, 4,000 seriously injured, 20,000 rendered homeless and the property loss was 50,000,000.

## WEATHER FORECAST.

Snow about Thursday and again at end of week. No decided temperature changes last half of week.

The heaviest food contracts in the history of the world have been let recently to 14 of the great packing houses of the United States.

## TIME-SAVING MACHINERY

### Mr. Converse Tell of Some Helpful Machinery for Harvesting Crops.

Dear Editor: After reading your editorial on harvesting crops, I wish to add that I agree with you but wish to say that there is in addition to the small grain crop, one other crop that harvesting machinery has been improved in proportion to small grains.

A modern potato digger drawn by four horses, digging and leaving all potatoes on top of the ground, at the rate of 200 bushels per hour, is as much ahead of the hand hook as a modern binder is ahead of the cradle.

True, the potatoes have to be picked up by hand, but there is also in the case of small grain shocking and threshing work that requires a good bit of hand work.

True, there is much more hand work per acre with potatoes than small grain, but the yield is also much larger.

But while modern corn picking machinery is not to be compared to the machinery used for small grain, there are many ways of reducing the harvesting labor of even the corn crop.

The silo, while not actually reducing the labor, enables the farmer to begin harvesting earlier than to crib the corn, and in this way the same labor can harvest more crops.

But there is also the hog that can be used to harvest a much larger portion of the corn crop and do it at profit to the farmer and the improvement of his land.

Then modern farming methods have increased the size of the farm so that a man can pick up 40 bushels per day.

It is true that the rate of the maturity of the crop which made it necessary to delay harvesting so long or till bad weather set in.

Yours,  
J. E. Converse.

[Mr. Converse has clarified the situation to a considerable extent, especially for those farmers who have large acreages of potatoes to dig, and many more of our farmers should have larger acreage in potatoes. The silo idea is, too, a great help but up to the present not many farmers in this county have silos. All told it is likely there are not over eight or ten silos in the county, but there should be a hundred or more and we hope the time is near at hand when the modern potato digger will be in evidence here and the number of silos in the county will be largely increased. That will mean easier harvesting of crops, which means less waste, more rapid and easy work and more profit for the farmer. —Editor Chronicle.]

## SNODGRASS WINS NOMINATION.

Before the Judicial committee met to make its final report as to whom the nomination for circuit judge for this circuit should be awarded, Mr. Ligon, the opponent of Judge C. E. Snodgrass, withdrew all claims to the nomination and agreed that it should be awarded to Judge Snodgrass.

Mr. Ligon gave a statement to the press in which he stated that he had made sufficient investigation on his own part to satisfy him that there had been enough irregularities in Trousdale county to elect Judge Snodgrass and conceded his nomination by 18 votes.

When the judicial committee met at Cookeville, following the investigation of irregularities in Trousdale county, the nomination was awarded to Judge Snodgrass without opposition.

Many friends of Judge Snodgrass extended him the most hearty congratulations on the happy turn matters had taken when it was felt that he had lost.

## SAVE COAL.

January 20 has been designated as the day when every coal shovel in the country is to be tagged with the words: "Save that shovel of coal a day for Uncle Sam."

The working hours of clerks in the Interior Department Building at Washington have been changed to run from 8:45 to 4:15 instead of 9 to 4:30, to relieve congestion in street railway cars of the over-crowded capital.

## BIG PROFIT ON POTATOES

### John Brewer, Creston, Clears \$488 on One Acre and a Half

John Brewer, Creston, has made a notable record this year in growing potatoes on a small acreage. His success was so unusual that we feel sure Chronicle readers will be interested in the full details of how he did it.

He turned an acre and a half of clover and timothy sod in February eight inches deep. Just before planting time he applied seven loads of manure and dished it well into the soil. The rows were 2 1/2 feet apart and the potatoes were dropped one foot apart. Covered with shovel plow by running on both sides. Just before they came up he dragged the ridges down with harrow with teeth turned back; plowed twice with narrow shovel plows. At last plowing used one peck of whippoorwill pease, drilling in middles.

From the patch he grew 506 bushels of potatoes and sold 416 bushels at \$1.12 1/2 a bushel, which brought him \$467.90. He harvested three tons of pea hay from the patch that is easily worth \$1.00 a hundred or \$60. Following is the itemized expense, full crop grown and net profits:

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Rent of 1 1/2 acres.....              | \$15.00  |
| Plowing and preparing ground.....     | 12.00    |
| 7 Loads Manure.....                   | 17.50    |
| 15 Bushels seed potatoes.....         | 30.00    |
| Planting and cultivating.....         | 10.00    |
| 20 Days digging.....                  | 30.00    |
| 2 1/2 Days marketing 416 Bushels..... | 10.00    |
| 1 Peck pea seed.....                  | 1.00     |
| Harvesting hay.....                   | 4.00     |
| Total expense.....                    | 129.50   |
| Sold 416 bushels.....                 | \$467.90 |
| 80 bushels on hand.....               | 42.00    |
| Total value of crop.....              | 617.90   |
| Less expenses.....                    | 129.50   |
| Profit.....                           | \$488.40 |

Besides this Mr. Brewer has grown 340 bushels of corn on six acres. He rarely ever grows less than 40 to 50 bushels to the acre of corn. Last year he had less than one acre in potatoes and grew them at the rate of 526 bushels to the acre, which is considerably better by the acre than he did this year.

Mr. Brewer rarely ever buys a pound of commercial fertilizer but builds up his land by keeping enough stock to consume all the roughage he grows and carefully saving the manure, which he returns to the land. He is a strong believer in clover, pease, and all the legumes.

His farm is one of the best in the county and he has made it so by good farming methods. There is no doubt, however, that commercial fertilizer properly used would prove very profitable to him but he prefers to follow the method he has found to be the sure road to success.

What Mr. Brewer has done others could do with proper management and industry. But no person should get the impression that what Mr. Brewer has done can be done at once on this plateau soil for that would surely lead to loss and disappointment. A period of years of good farming is what makes such crops possible here and those who are willing to either spend considerable sums of money for building up this land or are willing to follow several years of good farming practice, can be sure of ultimate success, but in no other way. Good crops can be grown while the land is being enriched for that is a part of good farming.

## WAR NEWS ITEMS.

Men working in many coal mines throughout the country voluntarily cut down the Christmas holiday to keep factory fires burning and houses warm.

The War Trade Board is granting no licenses for the export of commodities containing wool which are necessary for the military or naval uses of the United States.

The Post Office Department has established coastwise parcel-post water routes to facilitate service for the can-tonments, which will operate to relieve war-time railroad congestion.

## SOLDIER FOUND DEAD

### BAD WOUND ON THE HEAD AND NECK WAS BROKEN.

Body Had Laid Near Railroad Four Days When Found.—Piller Rich, Celina, Had Been Discharged for "Mental Deficiency."

Friday morning the body of Piller Rich, aged 26 years, Celina, was found dead one mile west of Creston by the section men of the Tennessee Central. Coroner E. B. Jones held an inquest and the jury returned a verdict of "death by unknown cause." The remains were brought to town and prepared for interment by Bilibrey & Phillips and shipped to Livingston.

There is considerable mystery connected with the death of Private Piller Rich as it is very evident that robbery was not the cause of death for \$45 53 cents in cash were found on the body. On the body were found discharge papers showing that he had been honorably discharged from Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., December 17 for "mental deficiency."

On the body were soldier's shoes and shirt, but the remainder of the clothing was of a very cheap civilian garb, no overcoat. A severe scalp wound had been inflicted on the right side of the head and a bad cut lower down. The scalp wound was so severe that a portion of the scalp half the size of a hand had been torn loose from the skull.

It seems evident that the body had been lying where found since early Monday morning before, for the section men found a pale blue civilian hat, with a conductor's check, bearing five punch holes, stuck under the hat band. At the time the hat was found little attention was paid to it as it was supposed that some passenger had lost his hat out the car window. When the body was found Friday morning it was 60 yards from where the hat was found, the head, one hand and shoulder under water and one hand out, in a stream that ran by the side of the grade. No hat was near the body when found.

Dr. V. L. Lewis, company physician for the Tennessee Central railroad, made an examination of the body and found that in addition to the two wounds mentioned, the neck was broken. It seemed clear from the position of the body that death would have resulted from drowning had the neck not been broken.

It seems that the unfortunate man was riding in the coach with two other men, but when or how he left the coach no one seems to know.

The cause of death very likely never will become generally known for it robbery was at the bottom of it the criminals completely covered their tracks by leaving on the body the money that they did.

The remains were brought to town and turned over to Bilibrey & Phillips and by them placed in a casket and shipped to Livingston in response to a telephone request of a brother of the dead man to be taken to the home of the father, L. A. Rich, Celina.

## EARTHQUAKE.

Eighty per cent of Guatemala City, Capital of Guatemala, Central America, was destroyed last week by an earthquake. The buildings there are all one story because of earthquakes and on the first rumble or movement the people rush from their homes to the open. The buildings are mainly of sundried bricks and wreck easily, but are not costly to rebuild.

## BLED SOE-DAVIS.

Mr. Walter Bledsoe and Miss Nettie Davis were quietly married on December 8, Rev. Underwood officiating. The bride and groom are now at the Bledsoe home but will soon go to housekeeping. Their many friends wish for them a long and happy wedded life.